(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for which it was not implemented so far; and

(d) what measures the administration propose to take to implement the Award of Regional Labour Commissioner(c) Asansol?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) to (d) The information has been called for from Eastern Railway and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Fall in the prices of essential commodities

1168. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of essential commodities has started showing declining trend recently;

(b) if so, what are the facts showing this trend; and

(c) the factors responsible for this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) There has been a general declining trend in the retail prices of sugar and cement in recent weeks. Prices of mustard oil have also exhibited a softening trend at some of the centres. There has, however, been a mixed trend in prices of rice, wheat, gram, *arhar*, *vanaspati*, groundnut oil, potatoes and onions.

(b) A statement showing the retail prices of selected commodities at selected centres is given in annexure. [*See* Appendix CLIV, Annexure No. 59].

(c) The declining trend in prices of some of the essential commodities particularly of sugar and cement may be attributed to timely supply management measures taken by the Government. The increased allocation of imported edible oils through the Public Distribution System, reduction of stock limits and other measures taken by the Government have resulted in the softening of prices of groundnut oil, mustard oil and vanaspati at some centres.

2. With the beginning of lean season there is normal seasonal pressure on prices of essential commodities. The rising trend in prices of rice, pulses and some other items may be attributed to this fact and local factors.

सवाई माधोपुर से चलने वाली छोटी लाइन की रेलगाडियों में डीजल इंजनों का लगाया जाना

1169. **डा० अबरार अहमद खान :** क्या **रेल** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्तमान में सवाई माधोपुर से चलने वाली छोटी लाइन की रेलगाड़ियों में डीजल इंजनों के कब तक लगा दिए जाने की संभावना है ; और

(ख) सवाई माधोपुर से दिन में एक बजे छोटी लाइन पर चलने वाली रेलगाड़ी "मेल ट्रेन" में वातानुकूलित डिब्बे के कब तक जोड़े जाने की संभावना है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री अजय सिंह) : (क) 2000 ईस्वी तक भाप कर्षण को डीजल/बिजली कर्षण से बदलने की रेलों की नीति के अनुसरण में, जब मीटर लाइन के और डीजल रेल इंजन उपलब्ध हो जाएंगे तब सवाई माधोपुर खंड पर भाप रेल इंजनों को बदलने पर विचार किया जाएगा । बहरहाल, शताब्दी के समाप्त होने से पहले सभी गाड़ियों को डीजल रेल इंजनों से चलाने के प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं ।

(ख) इस प्रकार के सवारी डिब्बों की कमी होने के कारण फिलहाल 9717/9718 एक्सप्रेस में वातानुकूल सवारी डिब्बों की व्यवस्था करना व्यावहारिक नहीं है ।

Training and visit system of agricultural extension

1170. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaken Training and visit system of agricultural extension to boost up agricultural production in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have achieved any tangible results from the T.V. system of agricultural extension in the country;

(d) if so, what are the achievements of Government so far;